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ENGROSSED SECOND SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1526

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State of Washington

63rd Legislature

2013 Regular Session

By House Appropriations Subcommittee on Education (originally sponsored by Representatives Orwall, Reykdal, Santos, Goodman, Upthegrove, Maxwell, Sequist, Freeman, Bergquist, Lytton, Ryu, Kagi, Tarleton, Jenkins, Fey, and Pollet)

READ FIRST TIME 03/01/13.

1 AN ACT Relating to increasing enrollment of underrepresented  
2 students in running start through a middle school, high school, and  
3 running start college partnership pilot project; adding a new section  
4 to chapter 28A.630 RCW; creating a new section; and providing an  
5 expiration date.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

7 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that low-income  
8 students and students of color often do not have access to dual-credit  
9 programs that allow students to earn both high school and college  
10 credits. Low-income students and students of color are  
11 underrepresented in running start. Running start provides a cost-  
12 effective way for high school students to obtain college credits. It  
13 also accelerates their progress through the education system. Because  
14 low-income students and students of color are underrepresented in  
15 running start, they are unable to take advantage of its benefits.  
16 Therefore, a pilot project is necessary to improve enrollment among  
17 those populations and to ensure that running start is accessible to all  
18 students.

1       The purpose of this pilot project is to provide coordination  
2 between middle schools, high schools, and running start college  
3 programs to help address the existing opportunity gap.

4       NEW SECTION.   **Sec. 2.**   A new section is added to chapter 28A.630  
5 RCW to read as follows:

6       (1) The increasing enrollment of underrepresented students in the  
7 running start pilot project shall be facilitated by the office of the  
8 superintendent of public instruction and involve close collaboration  
9 and coordination between the participating institutions of higher  
10 education as defined in RCW 28A.600.300 that have over fifty students  
11 participating in the running start program and school districts with  
12 students participating in that program. School districts of the second  
13 class and nonhigh districts are not required to participate. School  
14 districts must meet with participating institutions of higher education  
15 located within their district and identify a plan for increasing  
16 enrollment of underrepresented students in the running start program.  
17 These meetings may include more than one school district or  
18 participating institution of higher education. A plan identified by  
19 each school district and partnering running start institution must be  
20 provided to the office of the superintendent of public instruction by  
21 August 1, 2014. The plan must include a focus on:

22       (a) Identifying and implementing strategies to provide outreach  
23 regarding the running start program to underrepresented populations at  
24 middle schools and high schools to ensure that students and families  
25 have information on the program. These strategies should include  
26 outreach efforts conducted by students from underrepresented  
27 populations, representatives from participating institutions of higher  
28 education visiting local high schools, and school districts providing  
29 explicit information sessions regarding running start;

30       (b) Ensuring better coordination between middle schools, high  
31 schools, and participating institutions of higher education to provide  
32 academic guidance to students who have been underrepresented in the  
33 running start program so that these students are better able to  
34 participate in that program.

35       (2) By December 1, 2014, the office of the superintendent of public  
36 instruction must provide to appropriate committees of the legislature  
37 guidelines for improving outreach to students who have been

1 underrepresented in the running start program and collaboration among  
2 middle schools, high schools, and participating institutions of higher  
3 education based on the plans that were reported by school districts and  
4 participating institutions of higher education.

5 (3) The office of the superintendent of public instruction shall  
6 collect current demographic data from each school district related to  
7 student participation in running start. This data shall be compared  
8 with data collected after two years of collaboration as described in  
9 subsection (1) of this section, and submitted to appropriate committees  
10 of the legislature by December 1, 2016.

11 (4) This section expires August 1, 2017.

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